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RCE/2700

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/577,922
Filing Date	May 24, 2000
First Named Inventor	Toru Mineyama
Group Art Unit	2614
Examiner Name	Michael W. Hoye
Attorney Docket Number	450100-02515

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

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1. Submission required under CFR 1.114.

a. ☒ Previously submitted
 i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on March 3, 2004 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ____
 iii. ☐ Other ____.
b. ☐ Enclosed
 i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. ☐ Other ____.

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2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of ____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) **required**)
b. ☐ Other ____.

3. Fees — The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 50-0320.**
b. ☒ Checks in the amount of **$770.00 and $110.00** are enclosed for the following:
 i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 ii. ☒ Petition for one-month extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 iii. ☐ Other ____
c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Dennis M. Smid	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,930
Signature		Date	March 30, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Saddam Ahmed		
Signature		Date	March 30, 2004
"Express Mail" mailing label number:	EV287822158US		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and completed Forms to the following address: **Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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